



# Resurrection & Glorification

## Lesson Overview

### 1. Resurrection

What is resurrection?

### 2. Watch a Video

Watch the story of Easter morning at [bit.ly/GCEDGospelOfJohn](http://bit.ly/GCEDGospelOfJohn) from **2hr 40min 49sec to 2hr 44min 13sec** (3min 24sec).

### 3. Discuss

Choose questions for discussion.

### New Church Concept Resurrection

The reason the Divine Trinity is in the Lord God, the Redeemer and Savior, Jesus Christ, is that the three essentials of one God, which compose a single essence, are in Him. Moreover, when He rose from the dead, He took from the tomb His whole human body, flesh as well as bones (Matthew 28:1-8; Mark 16:5-6; Luke 24:1-3; John 20:11-15), a thing no other person can do. He gave the disciples a living proof of this when He said:

Look at my hands and my feet, as proof that it is I myself; touch me and look, for a spirit does not have flesh and bones, as you see me have, Luke 24:39. See *True Christian Religion* 170.2.

## FaithBuilder 3 | Lesson 25 | Easter

**This lesson explores two important concepts:** Jesus' **resurrection** from the tomb on Easter morning, the third day after his crucifixion. The women who came to the tomb did not find His body because He had made it Divine through a life-long process of **glorification**.

### Resurrection

1. "Lazarus syndrome" is an unusual circumstance in which a person clinically dies and later comes back to life. Since 1982, thirty-eight people have experienced this. Some awakened to normal lives; others died hours later. How might this syndrome have been named?
2. How might you use the words "resurrect" or "resurrection" (coming back to life after death) in a sentence? (phoenix, clothing, shows, death, etc.)
3. How does "resurrection" relate to Easter?
4. What does Jesus' resurrection tell us about our own resurrection after death?

### Watch a Video

Watch the story of Easter morning, John 20:1-18, from *The Life of Jesus . English . Official Full HD Movie*, at [bit.ly/GCEDGospelOfJohn](http://bit.ly/GCEDGospelOfJohn). (Enter link in the web browser bar at the top of your screen.) **Start the video at 2hr 40min 49sec. End at 2hr 44min 13sec;** 3min 24sec).

### Discuss

*Choose questions for discussion.*

1. What do the Lord's night-time birth and dawn resurrection suggest?
2. When angels think of the tomb they think of heaven—of resurrection. The stone door that gives access to the tomb represents the Word of God. The religious leaders shut the Lord in a tomb—just as they had "shut up" the Word before His advent. How did the Lord restore access to heaven during His life on earth—just as He broke out of the tomb on Easter morning?
3. Disciples John and Simon Peter ran to the tomb. John stopped at the door while Peter went in. What quality in us questions at the "door of the tomb?" What, in us, "goes in" immediately to see the Lord?
4. The disciples saw graveclothes—but not the risen Lord. Clothes represent true ideas. What, in us, might see a person's "clothing"—but not the person?
4. Why didn't Mary recognize the risen Lord? Do we recognize the Lord when He appears to us? How does the Lord call our name?
5. How can we meet the Lord? Does He come to us, or do we go to Him?
6. Unlike us, the Lord made His body Divine and was fully united to His "Father" or Divine soul. Why couldn't Mary touch Him? Can we "touch" the Lord? Why or why not?

## Glorification

*Based on a talk by Rev. Kurt Ho. Asplundh*

“Glorification” means to “make something have glory” or “the getting of glory.” At the end of the Lord’s life on earth He *glorified* His Human, the human he assumed at His birth on earth. It was the most important accomplishment of His life on earth. When the women came to look for His body it was not there; the Lord had glorified it and risen with it from the tomb.

The Lord entered the world with a body from Mary, his mother. While His earthly body grew, the Lord developed His mind by learning true ideas from the Word. The Writings call this “putting on a Human.” The mind is the part of us that becomes truly “human” as we develop the capacity to think and recognize what is true. The Human form the Lord took on while on earth was infinitely superior to the human qualities we can develop. He learned all truth there is to know perfectly, while we learn only a little. This Human is what the Lord “glorified,” throughout His life on earth by joining His Divine love with the truth of His Human.

When the Lord rose on Easter morning this work was finished. He was fully the God of heaven and earth. Nothing remained of the body He had from Mary. No body was in the tomb because the glorified body, the Divine Human, had risen. Since this the Lord has “all power in heaven and on earth” to do miracles, to teach truths, and to keep evil under His control, forever.

## Discussion

*Choose questions for discussion.*

1. What is the most important thing you will do in your lifetime?
2. What was the most important thing the Lord did in His lifetime?
3. Why was no body found in the tomb on Easter morning?
4. The question of what happened to Jesus’ body has been of huge significance to Christian scholars. People explain the situation in a variety of ways. How would you explain it? (See Teacher Reference material on The Body of Christ on the following page.)
5. How might you have reacted if you had discovered Jesus’ body was not in the tomb?
6. Read the passages below. Why did the Lord appear to His disciples after He rose from the tomb?

As the Lord's Human was glorified, He rose on the third day after the death of His body. This is unlike people, who only rise as to the spirit, but not with the body. The Lord showed Himself to His disciples in His Divine Human body, saying to them when they believed that they saw a spirit: "See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself; handle Me and see; for a spirit hath not flesh and bones as ye see Me have." See *Doctrine of the Lord* 35.9

The Lord rises again with every person who is being regenerated. See *Arcana Coelestia* 2917

## New Church Concept Glorification

The Lord came into the world that He might save the human race, which otherwise would have perished. He saved them by subjugating the hells—which infested every person coming into the world and going out of the world—and at the same time by glorifying His Human. See *New Jerusalem and Its Heavenly Doctrine* 293

As the Lord glorified His Human, so He regenerates a person, therefore the regeneration of a person is an image of the Lord's glorification. The first state of His glorification consisted in making His Human Divine Truth and uniting it to the Divine Good that was within Him. The second state consisted in acting from Divine Good through Divine Truth. For by means of Divine Truth emanating from the Lord's Divine Good heaven is built and the Church is built, and by means of Divine Truth all within the Church are regenerated. See *Arcana Coelestia* 10057

The Lord made His Human Divine by means of temptations and by means of continual victories in them. Temptations are combats against evils and falsities; and as evils and falsities are from hell, temptations are combats against hell. The Lord fought from His own power against all the hells, and completely mastered them. See *Doctrine of the Lord* 33.1-3

## The Body of Christ

### FOR TEACHER REFERENCE

Jesus rose from the tomb leaving no trace of His body. Christian scholars have puzzled over this and have answered questions about His body in various ways.

During the Last Supper Jesus broke bread and said, "This is my body. Do this in remembrance of Me." Like other Christian churches, the New Church offers Holy Supper, the most holy act of worship, in remembrance of this act.

The Catholic Church teaches that during the Eucharist (holy supper) the bread physically changes into the body of Christ. This change is called "transubstantiation." Other Protestants teach that *all of Christ's believers* are the "Body of Christ." In this sense, Christians are members of the universal body of Christ because they identify with Christ directly through faith. Jesus Christ is the "head" of the body, which is the church, while the "members" of the body are seen as members of the Church. In this way, Protestantism defines the "Body of Christ" more broadly.

The New Church teaches that the Lord has a body, and that we are created in His image: "Everyone can affirm in himself the existence of infinite elements in God if he believes that God is a person. And because God is a person, He has a body, and everything associated with a body. Thus He has a face, abdomen, feet, eyes, ears, nose, mouth and tongue, and the organs inside a person. In a created person these constituents are beyond number. But in the human God they are infinite." See *Divine Love and Wisdom* 18

It is known that the church is the Body of Christ; but how this is has not been known. The whole heaven is as one human before the Lord; and is distinguished into societies which have reference to human members, or organs. The Lord is the soul or life of this body. For He inspires people; and when He is present, He is present through the heavens, as the soul is present through its body. The same is the case with the church on earth; for this is the external man. Wherefore, everyone through death is gathered to his own in that body. *Invitation* 28

The Lord appears in His Word. He does not appear in person because after His ascension into heaven He is in His glorified Human cannot appear to any person, unless He has first opened the eyes of his spirit. When He showed Himself to the disciples, He first opened their eyes: And their eyes were opened, and they recognized Him, Luke 24:31. *True Christian Religion* 777